

**REMARKS**

The claims are amended to insert the word “matrix” in line 2 of Claim 1. Support for this amendment is found on page 2 at line 14. Claim 1 is further amended to insert the limitation of Claim 7 into Claim 1, in particular “wherein the aspect ratio of the carbon nanofibers is 150 or greater”. Claim 1 is now of the scope of Claim 7. As a result of this amendment, it is necessary to cancel Claim 7. Therefore, Claim 7 is cancelled.

The amendment to Claim 1 by inserting “matrix” after “polymer” provides antecedent basis for the term “polymer matrix” in Claims 1, 6 and 8. Therefore, this ground for the rejection is obviated. Claims 1 to 6 are amended to change the preamble to “A composition” from “Compositions”. This obviates the objection to the claims.

Claim 7 is not subject to a rejection. Claim 1 is amended to insert the limitation of Claim 7 and now is of the scope of Claim 7 before cancellation. All of the other pending claims depend from amended Claim 1 as amended. As there is no art rejection of Claim 7 and the objection to Claim 7 as being dependent from a rejected base claim is obviated by inserting its limitation into Claim 1, the claims are now in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request allowance of the pending claims.

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Respectfully submitted,

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